

DR. BILLY JAMES HARGIS, his CHRISTIAN CRUSADE,
his CHRISTIAN ECHOES NATIONAL MINISTRY, and
connections with other groups.

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I. Who is Billy James Hargis?

Born in 1925 at Texarkana, Texas, Hargis went through a rapid training for the ministry and was ordained at the age of 18 in the Disciples of Christ, recently merged with the Christian Church. He served pastorates at Salisaw, Oklahoma; Granby, Missouri; and Sapulpa, Oklahoma, where he was in 1950 when he resigned from the pastorate to direct his anti-communist activities full-time.

Hargis uses the title of Doctor, but this is honorary at most. His ordination followed instruction at Ozark Bible College, Bentonville, Arkansas. He received a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1954 from Defender Seminary, in Puerto Rico; then he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1956 and a Bachelor of Theology degree in 1958 from Burton College and Seminary, Manitou Springs, Colorado. In 1957, he obtained an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Belin Memorial University, then located at Chillicothe, Mo., but now located at Manassas, Va. In 1961 he received another honorary Doctor of Laws from Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C., and he has continued a friendly relationship with both Bob Jones, Sr., the Founder, and Bob Jones, Jr., the President, of that University. For example, when Hargis announced the establishment of a school at Manitou Springs, he said it would be staffed by students of Bob Jones University.

At least two of these degrees were obtained from "diploma mills" so branded by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare during the Eisenhower Administration. (April, 1960, press release) These are his "degrees" from Burton College and Belin Memorial University.

In addition, the head of the latter, Dr. Clyde Belin, was sentenced September 16, 1959, to a one-year term in Federal prison for using the mails to defraud. Moreover, Defender Seminary in Puerto Rico was an enterprise of the late Rev. Gerald B. Winrod, a notorious anti-Semite of the 1940's. (FACTS, published by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, April, 1962, p. 230)

All accounts of Hargis's activities comment on his boundless energy, in spite of his 270 pounds. Until recently, he traveled to as many as 20 meetings a month via a special air-conditioned bus which served as a mobile bedroom, office and radio studio. One explanation of his drive was given by Hargis to John Wicklein, of the New York Times (8/6/61): "I enjoyed holding revivals and evangelism is that type of work, and I decided to become an anti-Communist evangelist. *** My biggest break, so far as promotion is concerned, came in 1953. I got the idea of ballooning Bibles into the Iron Curtain countries from West Germany." He explained that the U. S. Government at first confiscated the balloons, then approved, but that the publicity made Hargis a celebrity.

A rousing orator of the old school, Hargis was once asked by a reporter: "Does your conscience bother you when you are manipulating an audience

as you did tonight?" Hargis replied: "I'm a trained speaker. Any minister has to be. I know when I have an audience with me. I had them with me tonight. You know, there was a man in the back of the room waving an American flag. That sort of inspired me. Yes, people are uninformed and ignorant, but I believe this is generally true, and not just in my audiences. Besides, I think it is the ignorant people who are going to save this country." (Article by John Kay Adams, Assistant City Editor of the Chicago Sun-Times, in The Nation 9/30/61)

A Hargis speech may last nearly two hours and will embrace many subjects. In a speech at Houston, Hargis condemned "Communism, liberalism, the National Council of Churches, federal aid to education, Jack Paar, federal medical care for the aged, Ed Sullivan, the recent Kennedy-Khrushchev meeting, Eleanor Roosevelt, disarmament, Steve Allen, and the Freedom Riders." (Willie Morris, quoting the Houston Chronicle in Harper's, October, 1961) Hargis also dismissed the brotherhood-of-man idea as "hogwash" and said: "I find most of those who criticize me are allied with those who follow the communist/party line."

This attitude, which approaches martyrdom, is related to Hargis's protests that he is a moderate. For example, he was head of a group called "We, The People!" at least two years when it met jointly with the National Committee for Economic Freedom, the chief pressure group for abolishing the Federal income tax; yet Hargis told a reporter: "I have never advocated repeal of income taxes. I know nothing of economics. I'm a radio preacher, fighting liberalism and communism. What we are doing is creating a climate of conservatism." (Peter Edson, Washington Daily News 3/20/62)

Hargis also disclaims any racism or other bigotry, yet his program has been used for the most reckless kind of racism and he has had very significant ties with such bigots as Gerald L. K. Smith. One of the invited speakers at his 1962 Leadership School, R. Carter Pittman, alleged at some length that the Negro race is inferior to the white, and there is every evidence that Hargis knew Pittman's racist attitude and record when he was invited.

Similarly, Hargis says that he has called Gerald L. K. Smith a phony, yet Smith quotes Hargis as once having said: "Gerald Smith has taught me all I know." (The Cross and the Flag, June, 1960)

In his attack on liberals and liberalism, Hargis differs from a few other right-wing leaders, such as Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, who claims to be against nothing but communism. Hargis, on the other hand, says "liberals will bankrupt us economically. Russia is waiting for just that. . . . I challenge the leaders to get off liberalism." Yet, characteristically, Hargis issued a disclaimer with the same quote:

"I do not equate liberalism with communism." (Washington Daily News 3/20/62)

And always there is the tie to fundamentalist religion. Hargis began the statement above by saying: "I got into this in 1948 because I saw apostasy growing in our churches. Liberals were discouraging belief in the virgin birth. The end of liberalism will be to destroy the church."

Another characteristic of Hargis is his constant fund-raising through appeal to audiences, through literature and through his radio programs. "Anytime I fail to ask for an offering," he told Harold Martin of the Saturday Evening Post, "you'll know I must be sick. And anytime the people don't come up and buy my books after I have finished talking, I know I have failed to put my message across." (4/28/62)

The result of all this activity has been to make Hargis one of the top right-wing leaders. The Saturday Evening Post stated that 100,000 Americans gave nearly \$1,000,000 to his tax-exempt Crusade last year, "making it the best-heeled of all the far-right organizations." The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, during a series on right-wing movements, began its article on Hargis: "The Rev. Billy James Hargis's Christian Crusade is the most significant anti-Communist group in the nation, because of its aggressiveness and efficient use of communications, some liberal observers believe." (1/27/62)

The Air Force manual incident: In February of 1960, front pages all over the country carried news stories that the U. S. Air Force had distributed a training manual containing attacks on the National Council of Churches and charging that the clergy is infiltrated with Communists. Under a heading of communism in religion, the manual stated: "From a variety of authoritative sources, there appears to be overwhelming evidence of Communist anti-religious activity in the United States through the infiltration of fellow-travellers into churches and educational institutions."

Reporters learned from the Air Force that the controversial manual had been written by one of its civilian employees, Homer H. Hyde, who identified Hargis as one of his sources. Specifically, a Hargis publication was listed as being of "considerable assistance" to Air Force reservists in studying security and related manuals. It is titled: "The National Council of Churches Indicts Itself on 50 Counts of Treason to God and Country." The pamphlet attacks the Council on grounds that it allegedly "promotes socialism which is contrary to our historic way of life" and criticizes the Council for having praised the "Godless U. N." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch 2/21/60) The manual was eventually withdrawn by the Air Force, with an apology to the Council.

II. Christian Echoes National Ministry

A few years before his success with ballooning Bibles, Hargis had incorporated his operation at Sapulpa as Christian Echoes National Ministry, which is still the official name of Hargis's operations. Trustees, besides Hargis, were listed as B. T. Blunk and Loyd A. Wright, all of Sapulpa. The by-laws were signed by these three plus Betty Jane Hargis (his wife), Charles Pile, Wayne Buttry and J. E. Hargis (his father).

In 1952, Christian Echoes National Ministry applied for and received tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service as an educational and religious group. With his IRS application, Hargis sent a pamphlet, "Communism in America Exposed," which was an attack on alleged infiltration of the churches, schools and the field of race relations. On the latter, he referred to attempts at "mongrelization."

Although he told IRS he was not advocating or opposing pending or proposed legislation, this pamphlet stated on page 13: "We can demand our senators and representatives pass laws in each state requiring each public school teacher, college or grade school, to sign the equivalent of non-Communist affidavits."

His main publication, a monthly magazine, was then called "Christian Echoes," and he had issued a 24-page collection of sermons entitled "America Awake!"

The application shows income and expenditures for the year through March 31, 1952 as being roughly balanced at \$18,000, with the largest income item being about \$12,000 from sermons, and indicates that Hargis was paid for appearances in Oklahoma, Texas, California, Indianapolis, and Ohio.

III. Christian Crusade

For the past 10 or 12 years, Hargis has been the star of the show at a growing center of operations in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 1961, the staff of Christian Crusade numbered fifty, and Hargis told the New York Times (8/6/61) there were 100,000 members in 40 states. He also said that the "crusade's budget runs to \$75,000 a month, \$25,000 each for printing, radio and administration. It mails 250,000 pieces of literature a month." Hargis's recorded "anti-Communist and anti-liberal messages" (quoting the Times) have been reproduced by 70 radio stations across the country as public service features.

However, Hargis told his 1961 convention, according to another Times article (August 7), that Mutual Broadcasting System would air his messages nationally for six months at a specially low religious rate

of \$38,870. After the announcement, Hargis appealed to God and his 700 audience to raise the \$38,870 — and raised it at the same session.

There is no proof — or disproof — of the claim on Crusade material that it is "America's largest anti-Communist organization." The material is well-printed, and the correspondence is professionally handled.

One reason for this is undoubtedly the employment of L. E. "Pete" White, a Tulsa advertising man who was previously employed by Oral Roberts, the "faith healer" of TV fame. White tells reporters that he built Oral Roberts from \$25 in his pocket to a multi-million dollar operation, then fell out over money. A few months later, White was called on by Hargis, who then was preaching in Sapulpa, broadcasting on three stations and had some old mailing equipment. "We set up Hargis along the same pattern as Roberts," White says. From \$40,000 worth of commissionable radio-TV time and advertising in the first year, Hargis now has billings of between \$400,000 and \$500,000, on which White's agency receives the standard 15% commission. (Donald Quinn, Oklahoma Courier, reprinted in Congressional Record 4/16/62, p. 6060-1)

Hargis has been fairly successful in extending his program from what might be narrowly considered as the Southwest Bible Belt to the national stage, and he refers often to the need for coordinating some 2,000 right-wing organizations. His main shows have been the national conventions of the Christian Crusade, held at Tulsa, but he is also a top officer in We, The People!, which operates from Chicago, and in 1962 he conducted schools in several regions of the country, besides trying a meeting in Washington.

Also, in 1962 Hargis announced the purchase of an old resort hotel in Manitou Springs, Colorado, which he renamed "The Summit" and started making into a retreat and an "anti-communism summer college." (Denver Post 5/27/62) Hargis held his first meeting there July 4-8, 1962, as part of what he publicized as his "Rebirth of Christian Conservatism Campaign." Similar conferences were held during the summer at Winona Lake, Indiana; Seattle, Washington; and Tulsa. After announcing purchase of "The Summit," Hargis appealed for \$30,000 to finish paying for it.

Finances

In 1962, Hargis opened a new "international headquarters" in a four-story building at 219 South Boston Street in downtown Tulsa, but he was also sounding grave warnings to his supporters that he needed much more money. A letter edged in black announced in March "with a sad heart" that five important radio stations had cancelled

for lack of money; a July letter on blue stationery in Mrs. Betty Jane Hargis's handwriting told of the pressure on the Hargis children caused by criticism of Billy James, mentioned her illness and promised a snapshot of Billy and the children in return for much-needed contributions; and the September 14 issue of his Weekly Crusader began with a red-ink headline: THIS PUBLICATION WILL BE DISCONTINUED AS OF OCTOBER 1, UNLESS-----!

A September, 1962, letter from the "Business Office" stated that "\$22,000 monthly has been cut from the radio budget," that "a saving of \$52,000 annually has been achieved" by Hargis producing his own TV shows, that a saving of \$5,000 monthly was realized from dropping TV stations where the Crusade was paying for the time ("now all of our TV programs are either locally sponsored or they are carried sustaining by the local station."), that "a saving of \$10,000 monthly has resulted from trimming our office staff down by 35 workers, that the magazine, Christian Crusade, is being printed at a saving of \$1,000 monthly, and that other economies had been effected by having consultants come to the headquarters. However, the letter referred to "deficits since January 1" which needed immediate contributions.

IRS reports for years since 1952 show that the Crusade went along at a level of \$25,000 a year for a while, then radio contributions started boosting the budget. In 1955, income was about \$58,000; in 1956 it was \$124,000, mostly from radio contributions but partly from the balloon drive. By 1957, gross receipts were about \$170,000, and minutes of the annual trustees meeting showed that Hargis was furnished a parsonage and that his salary was a little over \$10,000. (It has since been raised to \$12,000.) Gross receipts reached nearly \$275,000 in 1958, raised to \$373,000 in 1959, and exceeded \$595,000 in 1960.

Hargis claims that most of his contributions come from the grass roots. He has specifically denied that H. L. Hunt, the Texas oil billionaire who finances "Life Lines," has given him anything, although the New York Times (8/6/61) quotes a Crusade spokesman as having said that Hunt contributed to several Hargis projects, adding: "We intend to get other conservative millionaires to contribute to the crusade, without taking over the crusade for their pet ideas."

A few years ago, Hargis publications were advertising a food supplement called "Nutri-Bio," which was seized in 1961 by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration as being "of no value in the treatment or prevention of any of the diseases which commonly occur in this country." (HEW release R95) Hargis disclaimed any connection with the product, but as late as June, 1961, there was an ad for Nutri-Bio in his Christian Crusade magazine.

When Hargis purchased "The Summit" at Manitou Springs, he obtained a loan of \$15,000 from Frank Graham, of Shreveport, (pictured in the

June, 1962, Christian Crusade) but it is apparent that most of the fund-raising is done by constant appeal for smaller amounts from believers.

Hargis goes to considerable lengths to maintain a distinction between his political and religious operations, apparently for the purpose of protecting the tax-exempt status of his Crusade. For example, he was quoted by John Kay Adams, Assistant City Editor of the Chicago Sun-Times, as saying: "I don't get any money out of this. The Christian Crusade pays my salary, but We, The People! doesn't pay me anything. We, The People! is political. It gives me a chance to do something in the political area. But the Christian Crusade is strictly religious." (The Nation 9/30/62)

However, Hargis's statements and writings put a considerable strain on this interpretation. After the 1956 presidential election, a U. S. Senate subcommittee included Hargis activity as an instance of "scurrilous and defamatory literature" having been distributed. The group reported: "Rev. Billy James Hargis of the Christian Echoes National Ministry, Inc. of Tulsa, Oklahoma, distributed a mimeographed appeal for funds entitled 'Our 1956 Political Crisis' and a printed leaflet entitled 'Stevenson and Kefauver.' Both of these items were marked by extreme language and attempts to link Stevenson and Kefauver to communism." (Report of the Gore Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections, issued 2/3/57, p. 19)

Publications

From the Tulsa headquarters comes a stream of regular publications, special pamphlets, radio-TV broadcasts, sermons, letters, and cooperation with other groups on the ultra-right of the American political scene.

Christian Crusade, the monthly magazine, has the most artwork of the Hargis publications, although it is only \$1 a year. It runs about 24 pages in attractive format, with colors. Contents include daily scripture suggestions, a "Sermon of the Month" by Hargis, news of the Crusade and articles on communism, religion and political issues. The editorial staff (June, 1962 masthead) follows:

Publisher, Dr. Billy James Hargis

Editor, L. E. White

Washington Representative, Maj. Gen. Charles A. Willoughby

Contributing editors: Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., President of Bob Jones

University; Noel Smith, Editor of the Baptist Bible Tribune, Springfield, Mo.; Matt Cvetic, the ex-FBI counterspy who died last summer; Benjamin Gitlow, former Secretary of the American Communist Party; Gen. C. A. Willoughby, formerly intelligence chief for Gen. Douglas MacArthur; and Julian Williams, Director of Research for the Crusade.

Executive Assistant to Dr. Hargis, H. L. Spencer
 General Manager, C. J. Hazelton
 Office Manager, Ken Swanson (formerly with Youth for Christ)
 Art Editor, Ruth Davis
 Research Department, Julian Williams and Maynard Lee, a retired
 Army officer who served under Gen. Willoughby. (St. Louis Post-Dispatch 2/27/62)

The Weekly Crusader is an attractively printed, eight page publication in two sections — the inner section being Gen. Willoughby's "Foreign Intelligence Digest." Hargis is listed as Editor-In-Chief, with Senior Editors being Ken Swanson and Gen. Willoughby.

Recent issues have called the National Education Association a "left-wing radical group" (9/14/62), warned that Halloween contributions to children for UNICEF "perhaps . . . will be used to help put the finishing touches on the destruction of the anti-communist and pro-American government of Katanga" (9/21/62), attacked the American Association of University Professors for supporting the President of the University of Oregon in permitting a communist to appear on the campus (8/3/62), reprinted Senator Eastland's analysis of the Supreme Court purporting to show that the justices usually favor the communist position (8/3/62), and blasted the Kennedy farm program in an article headed: "Freedom vs. Santa Claus on American Farms" (7/20/62).

Other publications: Artfully printed pamphlets pour out of the Crusade headquarters, along with tapes, records and books. Hargis's main book, Communist America . . . Must It Be? is also available in record form with Hargis reading portions of it. Chapters include:

A Free Press — Leading America Leftward
 Patriotism — Once Revered, Now Smeared
 A Supreme Court Against America
 United Nations — The Greatest Hoax Ever Perpetrated
 on the American Public
 Communism and the National Council of Churches . . .

A more recent booklet by Hargis is titled "What's Wrong With America?", and he also sells a song book and a recording of his favorite hymns sung by himself.

The real substantive bite in the Crusade is found in its pamphlet series. Examples of some signed by Hargis:

NO ROOM IN THE INN — OR IN THE U. N.

"We slapped Christ in the face at the setting up of the United Nations in San Francisco in April, 1945, just as surely as the Jews slapped Him on the night of His betrayal 2,000 years ago. We gave into Communist

pressures and agreed to make no mention of Jesus Christ, or God, the Father, in United Nations Chambers. From the beginning, there has been no room for Him in the U. N."

THE TRUTH ABOUT SEGREGATION

"The entire problem that confronts America today was bred in the pits of Communist debauchery and conspiracy. . . . Segregation is one of nature's universal laws. . . . No inter-mingling or cross-breeding with animals of a widely different characteristic takes place except under abnormal or artificial conditions. . . . Ancient Israel achieved a mission and accomplished a good which would have been impossible had they abandoned the principle of segregation and became integrated with the nations which hemmed them in on all sides, centuries ago. . . . It is my conviction that God ordained segregation."

UNMASKING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., THE DECEIVER

"King's Communist affiliations and acquaintances go back many years and establish a clear pattern of Marxist affinity. . . . Rev. King has also been associated with the NAACP. . . . Of the 5 founders of the NAACP, only one was a Negro. He is an identified Communist. . . ."

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES INDICTS ITSELF ON 50 COUNTS OF TREASON TO GOD AND COUNTRY!

An introduction tells how a young fundamentalist preacher starts dreaming of "social reform and the like," starts signing petitions, begins to be converted to socialism, and becomes an officer in the local Council of Churches. "He no longer believes that Jesus is coming again. . . he looks to socialism to bring about the Kingdom of God . . . he talks of 'social progress,' 'equality,' 'liberation' and other such jabber-wok."

UNCLE SAM, M. D. ?

"One of the key targets of the collectivist drive to centralize all power in our federal government is the medical field . . . the planners expect to get the principle of government's responsibility for health established— then to move for expansion — and finally achieve a fully socialized medical system in America. . . . Of course, Socialism and, specifically, socialized medicine, is and has been for many years a prime goal of the international Communist conspiracy."

THE COMMUNIST PROGRAM FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER

A clever smear of the National Farmers Union effected by quoting from communist sources and boasts to imply that the farm organization is connected to the communists. Also a smear on the Kennedy farm program, such as: "The Communists called for a food stamp program back in 1947 and now that is being put into effect."

COMMUNISM & AMERICAN LABOR

"The question involved in 'Right to Work Laws' is very simple and basic. . . . There are few large industries left . . . where a job can be had and kept without coming under the domination of powerful and rich union bosses. . . . If they are so interested in the welfare of the working men, why do they so strongly oppose employee stock holding and profit-sharing plans whereby the workers are encouraged to more efficient work. . . . Plans such as these are much to the advantage of the working man but are directly opposed to the 'class warfare' theory of the Communists and labor bosses. Most of today's union leaders base their entire union operation upon the 'class warfare' theory — they have millions of workers convinced that employers are their enemies and that they should do as little work as possible for their pay. . . .

"Christian Friends, whether you are a union member or not, you owe it to your country and your children to put the interests of America first. When in doubt how to vote in an election, you will probably be right 99 out of 100 times if you vote the opposite of the way advised by union bosses."

BROTHERHOOD OF MAN . . . A SMOKE SCREEN

"Many of those promoting the brotherhood concept of today will be found also among those who follow in varying degrees the marxist class struggle theory. They will be found among those who tend to divide mankind into two classes, the keepers and the kept, through promoting welfare state socialism."

A few other pamphlets by Hargis are: "The Truth About UNESCO," "The Ugly Truth About Drew Pearson," "What's Wrong With Jesus?" "The United Nations Destroying America By Degrees," "The Muzzling of General Walker," and "Current Communist Party Lines Promoted by the National Council of Churches." Hargis also has a pamphlet, "What Can You Do To Save Our Country?", which recommends right-wing reading material and these radio personalities: Fulton Lewis, Dean Clarence Manion, Dan Smoot, Dr. Carl McIntire, Martha Rountree, Dr. Wayne Poucher and Paul Harvey.

Radio programs: Hargis claims to have built his radio coverage to as many as 70 stations (N. Y. Times 8/6/61) on a public service basis before making a deal with Mutual Broadcasting System to carry his messages nationally for six months. However, he had a falling out with Mutual. As Hargis explained it in the March 23, 1962, Weekly Crusader, Mutual's regulations did not permit the Crusade to appeal for funds in the broadcasts nor offer literature for sale. Also, he charged that Mutual started censoring the weekly broadcasts and actually rejected one as being "controversial" or "political" instead of religious. He therefore started contracting with individual stations affiliated with Mutual — some 60 of them, widely scattered — and

appealed for funds to maintain the operation and expand it.

Other material: A recent issue of Christian Crusade (May, 1962) offers an entire page of tape recordings at \$5.00 each, featuring Hargis and dozens of speakers at various meetings, as well as long-playing records of Hargis. The same issue offers a U. S. flag kit for \$4.95 and four books: Communist America — Must It Be?, by Hargis; A Compilation of Public Records of 658 Clergymen and Laymen Connected With the National Council of Churches, by Myers Lowman of the Circuit Riders, Inc.; MacArthur 1941-1951, by Maj. Gen. Charles A. Willoughby and John Chamberlain; and The Story of Mary Liu, by Edward Hunter.

The center spread of the magazine is a two-color ad for hospitalization insurance at special rates to non-drinkers by De Moss Associates, Inc., Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

IV. Connections with others

Hargis has been one of the active promoters of unity and coordination among the right-wing groups. Membership of his National Advisory Committee is reproduced on the next page from a 1962 Crusade brochure, and Hargis's connections with other organizations and individuals will follow a description of his 1962 effort to head a coordinating force. See Section I - Organizations, for more details on these groups.

(a) Anti-Communist Liaison

Hargis called and presided over a select meeting of right-wingers at Washington, D. C., March 21, 1962. He had previously announced intentions to form a secret fraternity, with Greek letters, but he apparently abandoned this approach. After a session closed to the press, Hargis announced a coordinating committee headed by Edward Hunter, former newspaper man, a lecturer on communism, apparent originator of the term "brainwashing," an Advisory Board member of Young Americans for Freedom, and an available speaker in the American Opinion Speakers Bureau of the John Birch Society. Hunter operates the group out of his home, in Arlington, Virginia under the title: "Anti-Communist Liaison — Committee of Correspondence, 1764-1962."

Others who were named by Hargis at the time or added shortly thereafter, together with their major affiliations, follow. (Names are from a letter of June, 1962)

Brig. Gen. Bonner Fellers (ret.), National Director of For America, National Director of Citizens Foreign Aid Committee, John Birch Society, Christian Crusade, Americans for Constitutional Action and Young Americans for Freedom.

CHRISTIAN CRUSADE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Billy James Hargis, D.D.

Founder-President

(Incorporated as Christian Echoes National Ministry, Inc. Department of Internal Revenue ruled contributions deductible from the income tax of donor).

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MR. C. E. BLISS, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

MR. EDWIN G. HILL, Tulsa, Oklahoma

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- Miss Taylor Caldwell — Noted Author of "The Devil's Advocate," and many other books, Buffalo, N.Y.
- * F. Gene Chance — Distinguished Libertarian Industrialist, Centralia, Mo
- Honorable James H. R. Cromwell — Industrialist, Former Ambassador to Canada, New York, N.Y.
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- * Brigadier General William L. Lee — U.S. Air Force, Retired, Amarillo, Texas
- * D. B. Lewis — President, Dr. Ross Pet Food Company, TV sponsor of Dan Smoot, Los Angeles, Calif
- Milton M. Lory — President American Coalition of Patriotic Societies, Past Pres. Gen'l, S.A.R., Sioux City, Iowa
- * Lieutenant General Hunter L. Lowry — U.S. Air Force, Retired, Tampa, Fla
- * Clarence E. Manion — Former Dean, Notre Dame Law School, Moderator, "The Manion Forum", South Bend, Indiana
- Miss Betty McConkey — Director Anti-Communist Crusaders, Des Moines, Iowa
- Thurman H. McCoy — Patriotic Retail Merchant, Atlanta, Ga
- Brigadier General Richard B. Moran — Distinguished patriot and military man, decorated by governments of five countries, Kerrville, Texas
- Robert E. Neamith — Patriotic Industrialist, Houston, Texas
- * Dr. Revilo P. Oliver — Professor, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill
- Mrs. Jessica Wyatt Payne — W Va Americanism Chairman, American Legion Auxiliary, Huntington, W. Va
- * Honorable M. T. Phelps — Former Chief Justice of Arizona, Phoenix, Ariz.
- * Hugh S. Ramsey, M. D. — Conservative Crusader, Bloomington, Ind
- * Honorable John H. Rousslet — Congressman from California
- R. B. Snowden — Distinguished Arkansas Planter, Memphis, Tenn
- Honorable Wint Smith — Former Congressman from Kansas, Manhattan, Kans
- Lieutenant General George S. Stratemeyer — U.S. Army, Retired, Winter Park, Fla
- Dr. Charles C. Tansill — Noted Historian, Author "Back Door to War," etc., Washington, D.C.
- John B. Trevor Jr — Outstanding Patriot, New York, N.Y.
- Harold Lord Varney — Pres Comm on Pan-American Policy, New York, N.Y.
- Colonel William E. Warner — Chairman, Ohio Coalition of Patriotic Societies, Columbus, Ohio
- Wheeler Williams, N.A. — Famous Sculptor (of the Robert Taft Memorial etc.), New York, N.Y.
- * Major General C. A. Willoughby — Chief of Intelligence for General MacArthur during World War II and the Korean War, Washington, D.C.

* indicates persons identified by the John Birch Society as being or having been members of its Executive Committee, National Council, Committee of Endorsers, or Editorial Advisory Committee.

Christian Crusade brochure announcing the August, 1962 convention speakers in addition to headliners Martin Dies, former Chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, and Dr. Bella Dodd, former Communist Party official.

PLUS...

... Seven sessions featuring dynamic speakers brought from all over the nation to speak to this great National Convention!



MAJ. GEN. CHARLES A. WILLOUGHBY, Christian Crusade's valued Washington correspondent; former Chief of Intelligence for General Douglas MacArthur. Authority on foreign intrigue and international relations. Brilliant analyst of trouble spots around the world.



DR. BILLY JAMES HARGIS, founder-director of Christian Crusade, now beginning his fifteenth year as America's Crusading Evangelist. Appears on daily and weekly radio and television; author, lecturer and authority on communist tactics. He will deliver his annual "State of the Union" message.



GEN. WILLIAM P. CAMPBELL, Searcy, Arkansas. Vice President of National Education Program, Searcy, formerly Assistant Chief of Finance, U. S. Army. Recipient of George Washington Honor Medal from Freedoms Foundation; producer of famous film, "Communism on the Map"



CONG. JOHN H. ROUSSELOT, brilliant and fearless young California Congressman, and speaker at Christian Crusade's Anti-Communist Leadership School. He recently won the Republican nomination for his office. One of the most dynamic and courageous statesmen in our Capitol today!



M. CAMACHO, Boston, Massachusetts, Portuguese-American Committee on Foreign Affairs. Just returned from Angola, Africa and will bring the audience a first-hand report from this land of torture, terror and assassination.



DR. CHARLES POLING, Wickenburg, Arizona, former pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Phoenix, member of one of America's foremost Christian families. An outspoken critic of liberalism in religion, he was actively engaged for many years in evangelism within the church. Retired from the pulpit, he spends his time writing and filling speaking engagements.



MAJOR HARRY KNICKERBOCKER, Dallas patriot, whose discovery that Yugoslav pilots were being trained in America, and his subsequent letter to Senator John Tower concerning it, led to the National Indignation Rallies throughout America.



DR. BOB JONES, SR., internationally known evangelist and founder of Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C. He is founder and vice-president of the Board of the Gospel Fellowship Association. An active minister for more than 60 years, he is well-known author and edits "The Fellowship News," a national religious weekly.



KARL PRUSSION, Los Angeles, California, was for 26 years a Communist, almost half of which he was an undercover agent for the F. B. I. Hear how he was lured into the Communist conspiracy, how he watched Red Fascism infiltrate America!



WESTBROOK PEGLER, intrepid American journalist and veteran syndicated columnist. Mr. Pegler has for many years indicted the ultra-liberal element in America, thus bringing to himself great criticism from these areas.



MILTON M. LORY, Sioux City, Iowa, President of American Coalition of Patriotic Societies and Past President General of the Sons of the American Revolution.

(remounted to fit page)

Benjamin Gitlow, former Secretary of the American Communist Party; Sponsor, Dr. Fred Schwarz's Greater New York Rally and School of Anti-Communism; speaker, Christian Crusade's "National Anti-Communist Leadership School" in Tulsa, 1/29-2/2/62.

Gen. C. A. Willoughby (ret.), formerly Chief of Intelligence for General MacArthur; Young Americans for Freedom, Christian Crusade, John Birch Society, Conservative Society of America and National Economic Council.

Representative John H. Rousselot (R-Calif.), John Birch Society and Christian Crusade.

Bella Dodd, former member of the National Committee of the Communist Party; Sponsor, Schwarz's Greater New York Rally and School of Anti-Communism; and Young Americans for Freedom.

Karl Hess, former editor of Counter-Attack, former Washington newsman, employee of the Republican National Committee, 1949-50, Assistant to the President of Champion Papers, 1958-61, and recently editor of World, the weekly Washington newspaper.

(b) Ties with other organizations

1. John Birch Society: Hargis is an Endorser of the Society (1962 brochure) and the National Advisory Committee of the Christian Crusade includes 18 people prominent in the John Birch Society, as is shown on page 13. At the Third Annual Convention of the Christian Crusade, five top Birchers were on Hargis's platform, led by Robert Welch, the Founder. Others were Tom Anderson, Lawrence Bunker, Fred Koch and Clarence Manion. (8/4-6/61)
2. We, The People!: Hargis served as President of this extremely right-wing group from 1960 into 1962, when he was named President Emeritus and a super-position—National Chairman—was created for Ezra Taft Benson, Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture from 1953 to 1960. Also, Hargis's column appears regularly in Free Enterprise, published by Harry Everingham, Founder and now President of We, The People! This organization is one of the most extreme of all the right-wing. For example, its 1961 platform called for impeachment of Chief Justice Warren, and the 1960 position included "getting US out of UN and UN out of US." It customarily meets jointly with the National Committee for Economic Freedom, the chief pressure group for repealing the Federal income tax.
3. Manion Forum: The radio-pamphleteering program of former Notre Dame Law School Dean Clarence Manion interlocks in many ways with Hargis's operation. Manion went to Tulsa to address the 1961 Crusade convention, and his Vice President in charge of organization — L. F. Reardon — helped at the February, 1962 meeting. According to Donald Quinn in the Oklahoma Courier, "Reardon said that in a private

capacity, he had been working for the Hargis Crusade on a part-time basis." (Congressional Record 4/16/62, p. 6059)

4. Liberty Lobby: Hargis is on the Board of Policy of this extremely right-wing group which pushes conservative legislation from its small Washington office and embraces a significant number of leaders of the John Birch Society and of We, The People! The chief organizer of Liberty Lobby has been Willis A. Carto, who has also published an anti-Semitic newsletter called Right. (FACTS, April 1962, p. 233)

5. American Mercury: Hargis wrote several articles for this magazine at a time when it was operated as a radical right-wing publication with anti-Semitic angles. His articles in the issues of February, October and December of 1957 and December of 1958 appeared when the once great magazine was serving as "an outlet for blatant anti-Semitism." (FACTS, April 1962, p. 232) Also, Hargis published a report in the December, 1956, issue of Christian Crusade on a meeting with the then publisher of the American Mercury at which, he said, they agreed to exchange articles and to offer special subscription rates.

6. National Indignation Convention: Hargis addressed a meeting of this group at the Broadmoor International Center in Colorado Springs, describing the Supreme Court as "an atheistic group which has declared war against God." (Denver Post 6/30/62) The group was formed at Dallas in 1961 to protest the training of Yugoslavian pilots at U. S. bases.

7. Daughters of the American Revolution: Hargis delivered a major address at the DAR's 1961 convention in Washington. His subject was "We Have Been Betrayed." (Washington Post 4/16/61)

8. Congress of Freedom: Hargis was listed as a luncheon speaker at the 1960 meeting of this far-right group, in Columbus, Ohio, April 7. His subject was "We have been betrayed." In 1962, for instance, the Congress of Freedom called for getting out of the United Nations, termination of foreign aid, a free market for farmers, so-called right-to-work laws, and repeal of the Federal income tax.

9. International Council of Christian Churches: This is the fundamentalist organization of Rev. Carl McIntire, who is also head of the U. S. branch, the American Council of Christian Churches. Hargis has been a member of the former, and his campaign to send Bibles by balloon into communist countries was under its auspices. ("The Truth" by Carl McIntire, 20th Century Reformation Hour, Collingswood, N. J., p. 18) An article by McIntire appeared in the September, 1961, issue of Christian Crusade.

Three of the big names in the American Council of Churches, organized to protest the "modernism" of the National Council of Churches, are

McIntire, Hargis and Rev. Harvey Springer, of Englewood, Colorado. As far back as 1954, Springer's rabidly anti-Catholic publication, Western Voice, published several articles by Hargis attacking modernism, liberalism and communism. (FACTS, April 1962)

(c) Ties with other individuals

The following individuals have been significantly connected with the Hargis activities. For the most part, this listing is in addition to the official leaders of the Christian Crusade who appear earlier in this report or have been described elsewhere. See Sec 2 - IND, for more details.

Mrs. Harry A. Alexander, described as "an official of the Daughters of the American Revolution who directed a state textbook investigation at the request of Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett in 1959," addressed Hargis's National Anti-Communist Leadership School. (Tulsa Tribune 2/2/62)

Congressman E. Y. Berry (R-S.D.) addressed Hargis's meeting at Washington, D. C., March 20, 1962. (FACTS, April 1962)

Walter V. Chopyk, public relations director of the United Anti-Communist Action Committee of western New York, addressed the Manitou Springs summer school on the subject of captive nations. (Congressional Record, 9/6/62, p. A6627)

Lt. Gen. Pedro A. Del Valle: At one time listed on the Crusade's National Advisory Committee, Del Valle is head of the Defenders of the American Constitution, has been active in other right-wing groups, and has displayed anti-Semitism frequently. (FACTS, April 1962) He is a former Marine Corps general.

W. L. Foster, Tulsa, deceased: According to the March, 1960, issue of Christian Crusade, Foster was Hargis's "business advisor." Foster had been a contributor to Gerald L. K. Smith and active in such right-wing groups as U. S. Day Committee, Congress of Freedom, Liberty Lobby, and We, The People! (FACTS, April 1962)

Col. Victor J. Fox, author of The Pentagon Case, which is promoted in Crusade publications, is also an available speaker from the American Opinion Speakers Bureau of the John Birch Society. (1962 brochure)

W. O. H. Garman, Pittsburgh, Pa., President of the Associated Gospel Churches of America, addressed the Manitou Springs summer school on "An Appeal to Christians to Support Strong Military Preparedness Programs" and on "Hatchet Men on the Left." (brochure)

Barbara Hartle, ex-secretary of the northwest district of the Communist Party, addressed Hargis's National Anti-Communist Leadership School. (Tulsa Daily World 1/31/62)

Dr. George J. Hess, Bunker Hill, Ill., President of the ultraright Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, addressed the Manitou Springs summer school on "Our Fight Against Socialized Medicine" and other subjects. Dr. Hess is also on the letterhead of the Courtney's Conservative Society of America (6/62) and is an Endorser of the John Birch Society. (1962 brochure)

Ed Hill, Tulsa, a Trustee of the Crusade (1962 brochure), appears to be the same Ed Hill who was listed by Gerald L. K. Smith, notorious anti-Jewish rabble-rouser, as a financial contributor to his Christian Nationalist Crusade of Los Angeles, totalling more than \$5,000 for the years 1952-56 and 1958-60. (FACTS, April 1962, p. 232)

Joseph P. Kamp, long-time extremist pamphleteer. During the Little Rock desegregation crisis, Hargis distributed a leaflet offering a pamphlet called "The Lowdown on Little Rock," by Kamp. "We are proud to send you a copy . . ." he said. There is also evidence of even earlier cooperation in a letter dated September 4, 1958, from Kamp to Lester L. Buttram, Business Manager of the Christian Crusade, concerning 500 copies of a Kamp booklet, "Meet the Man," which Kamp stated had been rush-ordered by Hargis on June 27th.

Vern P. Kaub, President of the American Council of Christian Laymen, who has also been on the advisory board of We, The People!, is the author of the book, Communist-Socialist Propaganda in American Schools, which is offered by the Crusade for \$1. He was once Vice-President in charge of research for the National Council for American Education, headed by Allen A. Zoll, notorious anti-Semite and harasser of public schools.

Myers Lowman, founder of Circuit Riders, Inc., Cincinnati, appeared on the program of the 1962 Anti-Communist Leadership School at Tulsa (St. Louis Post-Dispatch 2/27/62), and at least one of his books alleging communist activity in the National Council of Churches has been advertised in Christian Crusade magazine. (Sept. 1962)

Gen. Richard Moran, Kerrville, Texas, addressed the Manitou Springs summer school on "The Supreme Court, Council of Foreign Relations and Communism" and on "The March of Liberalism." He is on the National Advisory Committee of the Crusade.

Revalo P. Oliver, Professor of Classics at the University of Illinois, got a whistling, cheering, standing ovation at Hargis's National Anti-Communist Leadership School in Tulsa for demanding that traitors be punished, for defending Gen. Walker, for attacking taxes to "win the favor of every mangy cannibal in Africa," etc. (St. Louis Post-Dispatch 2/27/62)

Albert Alford Payne, former lobbyist for the National Association of Real Estate Boards and employee of the Americans for Constitutional Action, and more recently working for Iowans for Effective Citizenship, is a member of the Christian Crusade, according to the Des Moines Register 9/8/61.

R. Carter Pittman, Georgia lawyer, John Birch Society endorser, and active in the White Citizens Council, addressed Hargis's Leadership School at Tulsa, 1/29/62. "The Negroes are unstable, impulsive, irresponsible, lacking judgement, tenacity, or humility," he declared. Hargis met Pittman when he visited the latter's library, a well-known source of right-wing literature. (Atlanta Journal-Constitution 6/10/62)

Dr. Charles Poling, former Pastor of the First Presbyterian Churches in Long Beach and Phoenix, addressed the Manitou Springs summer school on "My Fight Against the National Council of Churches" and other subjects. The Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegram (7/8/62) quoted him as saying that "the Communists want to ban all nuclear testing and they are against the right-to-work laws and so is the National Council."

Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker, board chairman of Eastern Airlines and World War hero: "Rickenbacker got applause and cheers in a speech during which he advocated the elimination of the income tax and called for a halt to foreign aid." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch report, 2/27/62, of speech to Hargis's Anti-Communist Leadership School at Tulsa in 1962.)

Maj. Arch Roberts, forced to leave active Army duty for his extremist speech to the DAR's 1962 convention, addressed the Manitou Springs summer school on "My Fight for Freedom Against Military Muzzling." Roberts had worked with former Gen. Edwin A. Walker on his "pro-blue" program of right-wing troop indoctrination.

Congressman Gordon Scherer (R-Ohio), a member of the House Un-American Activities Committee, was an instructor at Hargis's National Anti-Communist Leadership School at Tulsa. (N. Y. Times 1/15/62) His remarks stressed the dangers of internal subversion.

Wickliffe Vennard, Houston, Texas: In August of 1957, Christian Crusade plugged by letter Vennard's book on the Federal Reserve, and Hargis described the author as "a dear and trusted friend of Christian Crusade." The Anti-Defamation League says that the book contains "open charges of an anti-Semitic nature." (FACTS, April 1962)

Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, who was forced to resign over his right-wing troop indoctrination in Germany and was later arrested for insurrection at Oxford, Mississippi, addressed the 1962 Crusade convention at Tulsa. (Christian Crusade, Sept. 1962)

Rev. E. F. Webber, of Oklahoma City, a former associate of Gerald Winrod and publisher of a magazine called Truth. Webber and Hargis jointly staged a series of one-day crusades in Texas in 1958. When Webber died, in 1959, Hargis wrote a tribute to him in Christian Crusade. (FACTS, April 1962, p. 232)

Opal Tanner White, long-time colleague and assistant of Gerald L. K. Smith, attended Hargis's Washington meeting in 1962 to coordinate the right-wing. (FACTS, April 1962)

Gerald Winrod, notorious bigot from Kansas: Hargis wrote in the October, 1959, issue of his Christian Crusade that he once called on Winrod for guidance in beginning his radio programs. "Dr. Winrod explained the operations of an office and the use of letters to underwrite the cost of such an expensive operation," he reported. Also, articles and letters by Hargis have appeared in Winrod's hate magazine, The Defender, one of them an appeal to the Federal Communications Commission in behalf of Winrod as a radio pastor.

Allen Zoll: "Last year the Crusade purchased Allen A. Zoll's library of 10,000 to 15,000 books dealing with Communism and its ramifications. Zoll was associated with the extremist Gerald L. K. Smith at one time and Zoll's American Patriots Inc. was on the Attorney General's list as a 'fascist' group. Asked about Zoll, White /Hargis's publicity man/ said that he was never a Crusade staffer, but had a three-month association with the Crusade last year, raising funds that permitted the Crusade to buy his library." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch 2/27/62)

V. Hargis quotes:

On liberals: "For 14 years, I thought the 'ism' that was the greatest threat to our nation was Communism. Now, I am convinced it is liberalism. The liberals have the finances and numerical strength the Communists lack; yet their socialistic objectives are much the same." (Seattle Times 8/20/62)

"I'm more concerned with liberals than with Communists (because there are more of them). Most of them are honestly mistaken, but they are doing more to ruin our country than any other single thing." (Eugene, Oregon, Register-Guard 8/14/62)

"Sam Newhouse, like many owners of 'liberal' newspapers, is an interesting man. He has made millions off our free enterprise system. Yet, among his newspapers such as the Denver Post and the Oregon Journal, you will find some of the rankest liberal publications in the country. Isn't this a clear case of biting the hand that feeds you? *** I am 100% behind the proposed Congressional investigation into the newspaper profession." (letter from Hargis to supporters, August, 1962)

"To be a real good liberal, you've got to be 100 percent stupid." (Oklahoma Courier, reprinted in Congressional Record 4/16/62, p. 6061)

On politics: "I personally think Senator Goldwater would make a marvelous President. Goldwater knows, as I know, that local Birch Society members are fine patriots, second to none." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch 1/31/62)

Hargis admits that his public support of Candidate Eisenhower in 1952 'was a mistake.' " (Oklahoma Courier, reprinted in Congressional Record 4/16/62, p. 6061)

On education and schools: "the left-wing radical group called the NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION. . . ." (Weekly Crusader 9/14/62)

"We want these right-wing organizations to be effective. We want them to grow, to move forward in teaching the dangers of communism in schools and educational seminars. We got such a course in Arizona schools, we're working on Texas — where it's a hot fight — and if we get that, we'll get Florida." (Washington Daily News 3/20/62)

On race: "Regardless of what the Negroes think, regardless of what the entire South thinks, segregation and racism have become one of America's great 'social crises', one of the most artificial of all such crises, instigated by the Communists within America to add racial hatred to class hatred, and thus betray America into Communist hands through betrayal of the American Negro." (Communist America — Must It Be?, by Hargis, p. 97)

"We have never had any racism or anti-Semitism in this movement. I have called Gerald L. K. Smith a phony . . . When I figured it out, I knew I was dead wrong to deprive the Negroes of their Constitutional rights. I'm criticized for this stand in the South." (The Nation 9/30/61)

The communist threat: "Within the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, according to Herbert A. Philbrick, who spent nine years in the Communist party as a counterspy for the FBI, will be found fully one-third of the top echelon of the Communist conspirators in this country. It is estimated that from 75 to 80 percent of the responsible officers in the department are conspirators." (Communist America — Must It Be?, by Hargis, p. 58)

"We conservatives all agree on one thing — that our problem is almost entirely from internal subversion." (N. Y. Times 8/6/61)

"There is no sense in kidding ourselves. Socialism and Communism are one and the same." (Communist America — Must It Be?, by Hargis, p. 57)

Other subjects: "It is my contention that the majority of the American newspapers are actively promoting the Communist line." (Communist America — Must It Be?, by Hargis, p. 29)

"Yes, I suppose you could call me ultra rightist. That's one of the nicer things I've been called." (Denver Post 6/3/62)

"My crusade cannot fail. It is of God." (Saturday Evening Post 4/28/62)

" . . . Hargis . . . said . . . the U. S. Supreme Court should be impeached for its recent ruling banning prayer in public schools. He said the court decision marked the 'darkest day and saddest hour in American history.' " (Denver Post 6/30/62)

VI. References

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